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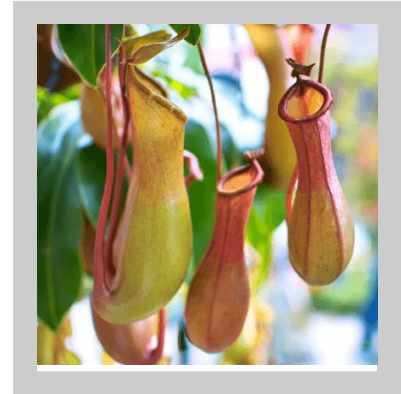
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The Carnivorous Plant Exhibit

Welcome to the carnivorous plant exhibit at the National Museum for Plants and Wildlife. For the next three months, the museum will display two popular species of carnivorous plants: the Venus Flytrap and the Asian Pitcher Plant.

Carnivorous plants are predatory green plants that capture and eat other animals. These plants attract, catch, digest, and process the nutrients from insects all on their own.

They are able to do this, because the leaves of these plants have special colors and nectar that can attract and trap insects. On Saturdays at 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, and 3:00 pm, a carnivorous plant expert will lecture about carnivorous plants and demonstrate this captivating feeding process in the promenade outside of the exhibit. You won't be able to keep your eyes off of this extremely interesting display!



Venus Flytrap

The Venus Flytrap is probably the most familiar species of carnivorous plant. They typically grow in the southeast part of the United States, because they prosper in warm, moist climates. Venus Flytraps are mostly known for consuming flies, but they will eat any insect that happens to become entangled in their trap. Because of their brightly colored insides, insects are easily attracted to Venus Flytraps. Once it lands, an insect will become stuck to the sticky pad. The flytrap will slowly begin to close and finally snap shut before it consumes the insect. It may take several days for an insect to be digested. If a Venus Flytrap is closed, you can tell it must have recently dined.

Asian Pitcher Plant

The Asian Pitcher Plant is named for its leaves, which resemble a beautiful pitcher. These plants typically grow near ponds. They are so attractive to insects because their pitcher-shaped leaves are multi-colored and mimic flowers. These leaves also produce tantalizing nectar. A curious insect will approach, take a sip, and then fall into the long narrow shoot to its death. The shoot is lined with sticky hairs that aid in capturing and digestion. Usually, they only consume small insects; but once in a while a small lizard or frog may stumble into the shoot and the Asian Pitcher Plant does not discriminate. If it fits, it feeds!

1) This passage would most likely be found in a(n)

- A. science fiction story
- B. gardening magazine article
- C. science fair invitation
- D. museum exhibit booklet

- 2) According to the passage, carnivorous plants are
- A. known for mostly consuming flies, but will eat other insects
 - B. predatory green plants that capture and eat other animals
 - C. so attractive because of their beautifully shaped leaves
 - D. plants that are consumed by carnivorous animals in the wild
- 3) Based on information in paragraph 1, it can be understood that **captivating** belongs to which word group?
- A. capturing, catching, ensnaring
 - B. modeling, indicating, displaying
 - C. fascinating, enthralling, interesting
 - D. shocking, amazing, inspiring
- 4) Using the information in paragraph 2 as a guide, we can understand that the southeastern region of the United States is
- A. cold and wet
 - B. warm and moist
 - C. hot and dry
 - D. cool and humid
- 5) Which of the following statements most accurately describes the difference between how the Venus Flytrap and the Asian Pitcher Plant consume insects?
- A. The Venus Flytrap only consumes flies, while the Asian Pitcher Plant only consumes lizards and frogs.
 - B. The Venus Flytrap lures insects with its beautiful leaves, while the Asian Pitcher Plant uses a sweet nectar.
 - C. The Venus Flytrap consumes insects in the United States, while Asia is the home to the Asian Pitcher Plant.
 - D. The Venus Flytrap closes on insects, while insects fall into the Asian Pitcher Plant.
- 6) According to the passage, Asian Pitcher Plants are attractive to insects because
- A. their pitcher-shaped leaves are multi-colored and mimic flowers
 - B. they produce an enticing nectar that lures insects into its leaves
 - C. they have sticky pads that are comfortable for sitting upon
 - D. insects enjoy eating their leaves

- 7) At the end of the paragraph 3, the author writes, “If it fits, it feeds!” From this, we can conclude that the Asian Pitcher Plant
- A. is very large and often will not fit near a pond
 - B. appears very beautiful and shapely to its prey
 - C. only feeds on animals that come close enough
 - D. will consume anything that fits inside its shoot
- 8) Which of the following traits apply to BOTH the Venus Flytrap and the Asian Pitcher Plant?
- I. sticky parts that cling
 - II. will consume any insect that it captures
 - III. will consume anything that fits inside it
- A. I only
 - B. I and II only
 - C. II and III only
 - D. I, II, and III
- 9) Using information from the passage, compare and contrast the Venus Flytrap and the Asian Pitcher Plant.
